

# **Amendment #1 Update to the Houston-Galveston Area Council Clean Rivers Program FY 2024/2025 QAPP**

***Prepared by the Houston-Galveston Area  
Council (H-GAC) in Cooperation with the  
Texas Commission on Environmental  
Quality (TCEQ)***

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**Effective: Immediately upon approval by all parties**

Questions concerning this QAPP Amendment should be directed to:  
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## Justification

This document details the changes made to the multi-basin QAPP to update the following items. The FY 2024 monitoring schedule was adjusted to correct one station monitored by the Houston Health Department.

## Summary of Changes

Section	Sub-section/ Figure/Table	Page(s) in Basin-wide QAPP	Change	Justification	Affected Entity	Page(s) in this Amendment
Appendix B	Sample Design Rationale	117	Change site 16667 to new SLOC ID 22474 in the first paragraph for Houston Health Department (HHD).	This site ID change reflects the change being made with this Amendment.	Houston Health Dept. (HH)	6
Appendix B	Monitoring Sites for FY2024; Table B1.1 Sample Design and Schedule, FY 2024	134	Change site 16667 to new SLOC ID 22474, update site description, and change the waterbody identifier.	Sites 16666 and 16667 are assigned to same waterbody (1006I) but they are located in different tributaries of Halls Bayou. 16666 is located on an unnamed tributary and 16667 is located on Kennedy Gully.  To address this issue, the original sampling location of site 16667 was assigned a new station ID (22474) and a new waterbody ID (1006L) Site 16666 remains unaffected in 1006I.	Houston Health Dept. (HH)	7

## Distribution

This QAPP amendment will be distributed by H-GAC via email to all personnel on the distribution list (section A3 of the QAPP to which this amendment pertains).

These changes will be incorporated into the QAPP document and TCEQ and the H-GAC will acknowledge and accept these changes by approving of the final amendment draft electronically via email.

## Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

### *Water Quality Planning Division*

Electronically Approved	7/16/2024
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Sarah Whitley, Team Leader Water Quality Standards and Clean Rivers Program	Date

Electronically Approved	7/15/2024
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Lawrence Grant Bassett Project Quality Assurance Specialist Clean Rivers Program	Date

Electronically Approved	7/16/2024
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Jenna Wadman, Project Manager Clean Rivers Program	Date

Electronically Approved	7/15/2024
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Cathy Anderson, Team Leader Data Management and Analysis	Date

### *Monitoring Division*

Electronically Approved	7/16/2024
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Jason Natho Acting Lead CRP Quality Assurance Specialist	Date

# Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC)

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Todd Running, Project Manager                      Date  
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Electronically Approved                      7/15/2024  
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Jean Wright, Quality Assurance Officer                      Date  
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Electronically Approved                      7/15/2024  
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Jessica Casillas, Data Manager                      Date  
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**City of Houston, Houston Health Department (HHD)**

Electronically Approved                      7/15/2024  
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CRP Project Manager

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Jennifer Myers                                      Date  
HHD BLS Environmental Microbiology Section  
Supervisor

## **Sample Design Rationale FY 2024**

The sample design is based on the legislative intent of CRP. Under the legislation, the Basin Planning Agencies have been tasked with providing data to characterize water quality conditions in support of the Texas Water Quality Integrated Report, and to identify significant long-term water quality trends. Based on Steering Committee input, achievable water quality objectives and priorities and the identification of water quality issues are used to develop work plans which are in accord with available resources. As part of the Steering Committee process, the H-GAC coordinates closely with the TCEQ and other participants to ensure a comprehensive water monitoring strategy within the watershed. A very brief discussion of past or ongoing water quality issues are provided with each partner's section to justify the monitoring schedule.

### **Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC):**

H-GAC conducts routine monitoring at 21 sites on a quarterly basis. Flow measurements are collected at all sites whenever possible. These sites are located towards the perimeter of the region where other local partners do not monitor. These sites are located where there are no cities or communities able to conduct ambient water quality monitoring.

Nearly all current routine sites, parameters, and monitoring efforts will continue into FY24 except for site 20466 being transferred to TRIES and adding new sites 22429 and 22430 on Luce Bayou. Currently, H-GAC has three 24-hour DO sites to confirm whether there is a new or continuing 24-hour DO issue at the three sites. They are:

- Site 16675 (Unnamed Trib of Buffalo Bayou at Glenwood Cemetery – Segment 1013C\_01).
- Site 16676 (Unnamed Trib of Greens Bayou at Smith Rd in Houston – Segment 1016D\_01).
- Site 16475 (Robinsons Bayou at FM270 in League City – Segment 1101D\_01)

Current sampling throughout the East Fork San Jacinto River watershed will continue between H-GAC, TRIES, and DWO. However, in response to new bacteria impairment on Tarkington Bayou which flows into Luce Bayou, H-GAC will be adding two new monitoring sites on Luce Bayou. TRIES will take over one existing monitoring site on Tarkington Bayou and add a new site upstream of the current. This monitoring will be in anticipation of a future TMDL project.

### **Harris County Pollution Control Services (HCPCS):**

HCPCS staff monitor the Houston Ship channel, San Jacinto River tidal portion, side bays along the ship channel, Barbour's Cut, Clear Lake, and tributaries either monthly or every other month. Monitoring sites, parameters, and frequencies will not change in FY24.

### **Houston Health Department (HHD):**

The city currently collects samples from 133 sites 6 times per year or approximately every other month. Staff have identified 13 shallow sites that are supposed to be only field measurements, observations, and bacteria sampling. No conventional parameters will be collected at the 13 sites. All 13 sites are part of the Bacteria Implementation Group (BIG) project area and continue to be sampled due to bacteria impairments in all of those waterways. Shallow sites include 11157, 16594, 16652, 16656, 16657, 16662, 16666, 16667, 22474, 18689, 18690, 18691, and 18692 in basin 10 plus 17487 in basin 11.

Site 11125 (Garners Bayou at North Sam Houston Pkwy) was removed last year due to safety. The site is added back to the schedule for FY24. HHD will sample from the banks only when it is safe to do so.

HHD collects TKN samples from only 25 of the 133 sites. TKN samples (no chlorophyll *a*) are collected quarterly.

### **Houston Drinking Water Operations (DWO):**

DWO collects samples from Lake Houston and the Lake Houston watershed because Lake Houston is a drinking

## Detail of Changes

A copy of a couple of lines in Appendix B, page 134.

Site Description	Station ID	Water-body ID	Basin	Region	SE	CE	MT	Field	Conv	Bacteria	Flow	24 hr DO	TKN	Chlorophyll a	Comments
UNNAMED TRIBUTARY OF HALLS BAYOU AT TALTON STREET IN NORTH EAST HOUSTON	16666	1006I	10	12	HG	HH	RT	6		6					Shallow site
UNNAMED TRIBUTARY OF HALLS BAYOU AT WOODLYN ROAD IN NORTH EAST HOUSTON															
KENNEDY GULLY OF HALLS BAYOU AT WOODLYN ROAD IN NORTHEAST HOUSTON	16667 22474	1006I 1006L	10	12	HG	HH	RT	6		6					Shallow site